

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the Title of the Invention with the following:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING SLOW LINKS AND FOR PROVIDING APPLICATION-BASED RESPONSES TO SLOW LINKS IN A DISTRIBUTED COMPUTER NETWORK

Amend the paragraph found from page 7, line 1 to page 8, line 2 as set forth below.

As shown in Fig. 2, the server 200 includes the already-available DKS core services at component 202, which services include the object request broker (ORB) 212, service manager 222, and the Administrator Configuration Database 232, among other standard DKS services. The DKS Internet Points of Presence (IPOP) Manager 203 provides the functionality for gathering network data, as is detailed in the co-pending patent application entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES LEASES IN AN APPLICATION FRAMEWORK SYSTEM", Serial No. [[_____]] 09/738,307, filed [[_____]] December 15, 2000, the teachings of which are incorporated by reference herein (Docket AUS9-2000-0699). In accordance with the functionality of the DKS IPOP, endpoint and link data are gathered for use by the DKS Slow Link Manager 204, the functions of which are further

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detailed below. The endpoint and link information gathering may include existing functionality such as SNMP queries for Network Interface Card (NIC) speed which will return speed data from NICs such as Ethernet cards or the like having the capability to respond to such queries. Another feature of existing network components includes the ability to generate and register responses from so-called "pings" between multiple links or endpoints to gauge the response time between two links. A Network Objects database 213 and an Endpoint Status database 223 are provided at the DKS IPOP Manager 203 for storing the information which has been gathered. Additional information which will be stored, for example at the Endpoint Status database 223, includes notifications of device failure and the like.